IN THE CLAIMS

- 1. (Currently amended) A system for inductively transferring electrical power to a computer peripheral device during normal operation of the peripheral device, comprising: a base unit including:
 - a source loop solenoid <u>having an axis substantially perpendicular to a planar</u> surface of the base unit to generate a magnetic field,
 - a loop power circuit to provide a signal to drive the source loop, and
- a power source coupler structured to provide power to the loop power circuit when the power source coupler is coupled to a power source; and

the peripheral device having a victim loop and structured to be inductively coupled to the base unit while the peripheral device is in operable condition.

- 2. (Original) The power transfer system of claim 1 wherein the peripheral device is a computer mouse.
- 3. (Original) The power transfer system of claim 2 wherein the base unit is incorporated in a mousepad.
- 4. (Original) The power transfer system of claim 1 wherein the base unit comprises a first area and a second area, and wherein a level of magnetic permeability is higher in the first area than in the second area.
- 5. (Original) The power transfer system of claim 1 wherein the peripheral device comprises a first area and a second area, and wherein a level of magnetic permeability is higher in the first area than in the second area.
- 6. (Original) The power transfer system of claim 5 wherein the peripheral device further comprises a data transmitter having an antenna formed in the first area.
- 7. (Previously amended) The power transfer system of claim 1 wherein the victim loop is a coil of wire having a solenoid shape.

- 8. (Original) The power transfer system of claim 1 wherein the base further comprises one or more additional source loops.
- 9. (Original) The power transfer system of claim 1 wherein the peripheral device further includes:
 - a rechargeable battery, and a recharging circuit coupled between the victim loop and the rechargeable battery.
- 10. (Original) The power transfer system of claim 1, further comprising: a data transmitter coupled to the peripheral device, and a data receiver coupled to the base unit.
- 11. (Original) The power transfer system of claim 10, wherein the data transmitter sends a signal selected from the group consisting of radio frequency, infra-red, and ultrasonic.
- 12. (Original) The power transfer system of claim 10 wherein the data transmitter is structured to send wireless signals and the data receiver is structured to receive wireless signals.
- 13. (Original) The power transfer system of claim 1 wherein the peripheral device is additionally in operative condition when not inductively coupled to the base device.
- 14. (Currently amended) A system for supplying power to a computer mouse, comprising:

a base unit having a power signal input connectable to a power source, and having a non-planar magnetic source loop coupled to the power signal input, the source loop comprising an axis arranged substantially perpendicular to a planar surface of the base unit; and

the computer mouse having a magnetic victim loop coupled to a load circuit within the mouse.

15. (Original) The system of claim 14, further comprising a rechargeable battery in the computer mouse, and wherein the load circuit is coupled to the rechargeable battery.

- 16. (Original) The system of claim 14 wherein the load circuit is structured to drive a mouse positional circuit within the computer mouse.
- 17. (Original) The system of claim 14 wherein the load circuit is a wireless data transmitter.
- 18. (Original) The system of claim 14 wherein the power signal input is coupled to a serial bus, and, when the serial bus is powered, the base unit is structured to supply power from the serial bus to a source loop signal generator, which is coupled to the magnetic source loop.
- 19. (Original) The system of claim 18 wherein the source loop signal generator comprises an oscillator circuit.
- 20. (Original) The system of claim 19 wherein the oscillator circuit can generate a signal having a frequency at or above 60 cycles per second.
- 21. (Original) The system of claim 15, further comprising a docking cradle shaped to receive the computer mouse, the docking cradle having a battery recharging circuit.
- 22. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein, during a normal operating position of the computer mouse, the magnetic source loop and the magnetic victim loop are horizontally overlapped.
- 23. (Currently amended) A method of powering a computer peripheral device having a victim loop coupled to circuitry of the peripheral device, the method comprising:

accepting a power signal at a power input; and

applying a source loop driving signal to a source loop solenoid while the source loop solenoid is proximate to the computer peripheral device;

wherein the source loop solenoid has an axis substantially perpendicular to a planar surface over which the peripheral device is moved.

24. (Original) The method of claim 23 wherein the power signal is the source loop driving signal.

- 25. (Original) The method of claim 23, further comprising rectifying the power signal to a source loop driving signal.
- 26. (Original) The method of claim 23 wherein the power signal is coupled to a bus on a personal computer.
- 27. (Currently amended) A method of recharging a rechargeable battery in a computer mouse that has a magnetic victim loop coupled to a battery recharging circuit, the method comprising:

creating a magnetic field by driving a magnetic source loop solenoid with a magnetic source loop driving signal; and

causing the magnetic field to interact with the magnetic victim loop in the computer mouse;

wherein the magnetic source loop solenoid has an axis substantially perpendicular to a planar surface over which the computer mouse is moved.

- 28. (Original) The method of claim 27, further comprising: accepting a power signal from a power source; and converting the power signal into the magnetic source loop driving signal.
- 29. (Original) The method of claim 28 wherein converting the power signal comprises generating an oscillating signal from the power signal using a pulse width modulation circuit.
- 30. (Original) The method of claim 28 wherein accepting a power signal from a power source comprises accepting a power signal from a computer bus.